

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0017] An application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) 14 is included in the communication apparatus 10. The ASIC 14 is programmable by software stored in the communication apparatus 10. The ASIC 14 implements various services that an operating system and an Object Request Broker (ORB) otherwise provide to a waveform application. Implementing services as such reduces operating system and middleware latency. Lower latency allows the use of more efficient processors based on MIPS per milliwatt. Such more efficient processors enable SCA compliant software solutions for battery powered radios, missiles ~~missiles~~, small unmanned vehicles, and unmanned ground sensors.